



THE 2019
CAROLINE ZELAZNIK GRUSS
AND JOSEPH S. GRUSS
LECTURE IN
TALMUDIC CIVIL LAW



IMPEACHMENT AND THE AFTERLIFE:

INSIGHTS FROM JEWISH LAW ON A
BASIC CONSTITUTIONAL AMBIGUITY

LECTURE

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2019



5:30 PM

The University of Pennsylvania Law School

Michael A. Fitts Auditorium

3501 Sansom Street

The lecture will be followed by an informal reception.

Dietary laws will be observed.

CAROLINE Z. & JOSEPH S. GRUSS



Joseph S. Gruss, a banker who founded Gruss and Company in 1942, was counted among the leading benefactors of Jewish education in both New York and Israel. In 1987, Mr. Gruss, by a bequest from his wife Caroline's estate, established the Caroline Zelaznik Gruss and Joseph S. Gruss Chair in Talmudic Civil Law at the University of Pennsylvania Law School. Mr. and Mrs. Gruss gave generously to Jewish education. They were responsible for forming the Fund for Jewish Education in association with the Federation for Jewish Philanthropies and the United Jewish Appeal of New York.

Joseph Gruss explained the estate gift in these terms: "Talmudic civil law reflects the universal principles of justice and protection of the rights of the most vulnerable. It has played a substantial role in the development of the Judeo-Christian heritage that serves as a foundation of the Common Law." The Gruss gift has enhanced the Law School's curriculum and the University's Jewish Studies Program. An international advisory committee assists in the development of the associated academic program. In addition to the Chair in Talmudic Civil Law, Mr. Gruss gave generously to establish a special Talmudic Law collection in the Biddle Law Library.

This program has been approved for 1.0 substantive CLE credits for Pennsylvania lawyers. CLE credit may be available in other jurisdictions as well. Attendees seeking CLE credit should bring separate payment in the amount of \$40.00 (\$20.00 public interest/non-profit attorneys) cash or check made payable to The Trustees of the University of Pennsylvania.

David C. Flatto received a B.A. and Ordination from Yeshiva University, a J.D. from Columbia Law School, and a Ph.D. with distinction from the Department of Near Eastern Languages and Civilizations at Harvard University. He is associate professor of law and Jewish philosophy at Hebrew University. He was previously a professor of law and religion at Penn State University, and a visiting professor and lecturer at Penn Law School, NYU Law School and Yeshiva University. He has also served as a fellow at NYU Law, Tikvah Center, and a visiting researcher at Yale Law School. Experienced as an educator and lecturer, he was honored in 2003 with a Teacher Recognition Award from the U.S. Department of Education.



His research interests include Jewish law, Jewish Philosophy, constitutional law and theory, and comparative jurisprudence. His works have appeared in numerous publications including Harvard Theological Review, Yale Journal of Law and Humanities, Yale Law Journal Pocket Part, Journal of Law and Religion, Dine Israel, Hebraic Political Studies and AJS Review. His forthcoming works are “Justice Unbound: Separation of Powers in the Early Jewish Imagination” and a co-edited volume, “Law as Religion, Religion as Law.”

PAST GRUSS LECTURES

2017-2018

Divine Law:

A Tale of Two Concepts (and three responses)

Professor Christine Hayes

2016-2017

Rabbinic Constitutionalism

Dr. David Flatto

2015-2016

Liberal Multiculturalism as a Remedy for the Religion and State Relations in Israel

Shabar Lifshitz

2014-15

The Struggle over Jewish Marriage and Divorce Law

Shabar Lifshitz

Lecture I: The Struggle for Gender Equality in Jewish Divorce Law

Lecture II: "Civil Unions for All": A Remedy for the Predicament of Israeli Marriage Law

2013-14

The Impact of Torah Study on Halakhic Codification

Chaim Saiman

2012-13

Halakhah: The Rabbinic Idea of Law

Chaim Saiman

Lecture I: Talmud Torah: The Study of Law as Religious Devotion

Lecture II: Law as Literature: The Talmudic Sugya

2011-12

Is it a Sin to Accidentally Sin?: Mistake and Error in Rabbinic Law

Arye Edrei

2010-11

The House of Israel Divided: Schisms of Language, Law, and Legitimacy

Arye Edrei

2009-10

Defining Community in an Era of Nationalism: Who is in and who is out in the eyes of the law?

Arye Edrei

2008-09

Religion and the State of Israel: Views from within Jewish Law

Suzanne Last Stone, Ph.D.

2007-08

Between Revenge and Reconciliation: Rabbinic Views on Historical Justice

Suzanne Last Stone, Ph.D.

2006-07

The Image of God in Classical Judaism

Yair Lorberbaum, Ph.D.

2005-06

Halakhah, Aggadah, and the Limits of Law

Yair Lorberbaum, Ph.D.

2004-05

Maimonides on the Commandments to Eradicate Amalek

Josef Stern, Ph.D.

2003-04

Unbinding of Isaac: Maimonides on the Aqedah

Josef Stern, Ph.D.

2002-03

Two Concepts of Kedushah/Holiness

Josef Stern, Ph.D.

2001-02

Moshe Halbertal, Ph.D.

2000-01

Moshe Halbertal, Ph.D.

1998-99

Gideon Libson

1996-97

*Moshe Halbertal, Ph.D.
Izbak Englard*



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